REMARKS

By this Office Action, the Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121:

I.   Claims 1-2, drawn to a technical feature of a nucleic acid encoding the C1 bacteriophage.

II.   Claims 3-7 and 12-13, drawn to a technical feature of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of a C1 bacteriophage PlyC lytic enzyme.

III.   Claims 8-9, drawn to a technical feature of a nucleic acid encoding PlyC.

IV.   Claims 10-11 and 14-15, drawn to a technical feature of a method for preventing or treating bacterial infections by administering the PlyC polypeptide.

V.   Claims 16-23, drawn to a technical feature of an antibody to the PlyC polypeptide.

VI.   Claim 24, drawn to a technical feature of a method for diagnosing streptococcal infection by measuring bound PlyC.

VII.   Claims 25-26, drawn to a technical feature of a method for detecting streptococci in a sample by measuring luminescence.

VIII. Claim 27, drawn to a technical feature of a method for detecting streptococci in a sample by nucleic acid hybridization.

IX.   Claim 31, drawn to a technical feature of a method for decontaminating equipment by applying the PlyC polypeptide.

Responsive to the Requirement for Restriction, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group II, <u>without traverse</u>, claims 3-7 and 12-13, drawn to a technical feature of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of a C1 bacteriophage PlyC lytic enzyme.

No fees are believed to be necessitated by the foregoing Response. However, should this be erroneous, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153 for any underpayment, or credit any overages.

In view of the above, an early action on the merits of the Claims is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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